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OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF DEFENSE  
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20301

COMPTROLLER

13 JUN 1972

(Administration)

Mr. David R. Young  
Special Assistant,  
National Security Council  
The White House  
Washington, D. C. 20500

Dear Dave:

You are familiar with the request of Mr. Clay Blair for the declassification and release of certain material related to U.S. activities in World War II. He wrote to Ron Ziegler on May 2, and you replied on May 22 suggesting that he should write to the Department of Defense, which he did on May 25. This exchange of letters is attached.

The problem in the Blair case is that existing regulations, supplemented by international agreements, prohibit the release of any material related to these activities, regardless of time. It appears that, in accordance with Executive Order 11652 and the NSC directive implementing the Order, this policy should be reviewed.



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A review of this matter seems advisable not only for a proper response to the Blair request but also for assurance that the exemptions from declassification being certified by the Secretaries of Army and Navy in our review of World War II material are in accordance with current policy.

Sincerely,

D. O. COOKE  
Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense

Enclosures

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